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Trinity Tablet, April 1875

Trinity College

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THE TRINITY TABLET,

VOL. VIII.

HARTFORD, CONN., SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1875.

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This paper, published every three weeks, is designed to be an exponent of the views of the

STUDENTS OF TRINITY COLLEGE,

and to furnish subscribers with all the

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE WORLD

in general. Its editors will endeavor to make it attractive in form and matter, and will spare no pains to render it worthy of the favor with which it has hitherto been received.

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The Trinity Tablet.

VOL. VIII.

HARTFORD, CONN., SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1875.

No. IV.

SEA SIGHINGS.

List to the moan of the restless sea,
So drear and wild in the deepening night,
Like a dark messenger, bearing to me,
Murmuring sounds from the great world bright.

They tell of the long ago, fondly dear,
Of home and the friends around me then,
Contrasting me now with none loved near,
And whispering sadly "what might have been."

They tell of the love, unfettered and pure,
Thy young heart claimed once as its own,
They whisper the tempter fate sent to allure,
And left me, heart riven, alone.

Ah well! repining is uselessly vain;
Cruel fate makes a hard path for me,
And yet, spite of all, I will not complain,
Save sometimes to thee, dear old sea.

CRITIQUE—"MODERN CHRISTIANITY A CIVILIZED HEATHENISM."

The author of "The Fight in Dame Europa's School" has put forth another work, under the title of "Modern Christianity a Civilized Heathenism." It is in reality an attack upon Christianity—an attack upon Christ, its Founder, because He taught unphilosophical and absurd principles,—an attack upon the followers of Christ, as being naught but hypocrites and dissemblers,—an attack upon the entire scheme of Christianity, as being a bare-faced and transparent absurdity. The form of the treatise is that of a dialogue between an English clergyman and a Hindoo.

Now, it is indeed sad, but none the less true, that the author of this little work has brought to notice truths which fairly startle the professing Christian. The forcible and spirited manner in which he has treated the

subject must lead the most unreflecting to pause for a moment and reflect, the most stolid and impassive to tremble, when he thinks how imperfectly the followers of Christ lead the lives which their Lord commanded them to lead; how little they do to make the Church worthy to be called by His name,—the Christian Church,—and worthy of that Redeemer's love, who promised that He would be with His Church until the end of the world.

One fact will serve to show the comparatively feeble support and encouragement which the Christian minister receives from his fellow-man. By the late census and the curious statistics which it furnishes, it seems—and this is an actual fact, vouched for by figures—that the amount annually expended in the United States for the care and support of dogs, is four times as great as the yearly salaries of all the clergymen in the land. But, Mr. Jamjeebhow would say, clergymen must expect to be laughed at and ridiculed; they have no right to ask for a share in this world's goods. Yes, and (thanks be to God!) there are Christian ministers in this broad land of ours who do unselfishly devote their lives and their all to the Lord's service, and ask of men no reward therefor. Their reward, let us believe, is eternal. In application of this fact to the matter in hand, we would deny that the clergy are, as the author attempts to prove, a superficial and inconsistent class of impostors. There are those among them who labor unceasingly for the extension of God's kingdom, led on, not by hope of temporal gain, but by the love which they have for the Master.

The most prominent fallacy which we can detect in perusing this work, is one which underlies its almost every page, and forces itself continually upon our notice. It is the erroneous idea, that there can be no alternative between leading a purely ascetic life and the disbelief in, and consequent rejection of, the Incarnation of Christ and the doctrines which He taught; in short, that we must all be either monks or infidels. This is an unwarranted assumption. Christ nowhere taught that His followers were to lead secluded lives. He nowhere advocates monasticism. What more conclusive proof of this can we ask than His own words: "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil."

There is a patent unfairness in the choice of the two characters whom the author makes to discuss this most important question. They are not representative men. Christianity is arraigned upon grievous charges, with none to defend it but a weak and volatile advocate, whose only wish seems to be, to extricate himself as quietly as possible from each perplexing dilemma, little regarding the harm that may in the meantime befall the cause which he professes to sustain. In short, the author seems to have had but one motive in introducing this unworthy representative of the clergy, namely: the pleasure he might take in overthrowing him. This is positively unfair. The impression produced upon the mind of the reader is, consequently, what might be expected from listening to a dialogue between some subtle Iago and a stupid Launcelot Gobbo. By sophistry Iago carries the day, because Gobbo has not the acuteness to detect his adversary's craft. Give Christianity a fair chance and a worthy defender, and the result would be quite different.

Still, in spite of all the objections that can be with fairness made, no thoughtful man can read this work without blushing for the many inconsistencies of his own life. No Christian

can read it, and not bewail the feebleness of his attempts to imitate the dear Lord's pure example. No clergyman can read it, without more deeply feeling the great responsibility of one who cares for the souls of men. There is, however, one danger to be apprehended. Placed in the hands of some men, it may prove hurtful, by making avowed atheists of those whose belief in Christianity needs but one stroke, either to destroy and annihilate it irrevocably, or else to transform it into an abiding faith, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

A VOICE FROM THE PIT.

It has, we are happy to see, become a frequent matter for men of the upper classes to contribute to the *TABLET*, and the paper is thus becoming a very fair exponent of the views and opinions of the students; but hitherto the men of the lower classes have taken little interest in the matter—have read and grumbled, but never contributed. And yet it is the Freshmen alone who are hoping to pass from the old buildings to the new, to accompany the College in its change of quarters, and it is we who must be most especially affected by the change. Let us, then, instead of waiting and looking on, endeavor to form our own opinions upon the great subject, and take our place among the thinking men of the College.

The general tone which has been assumed in considering the matter has been one of not unnatural regret at passing away from old places and time-honored associations. It is hard enough for an individual to break up the routine of his life; but when the old College begins to move and become unsettled we feel like men in an earthquake, who give up all confidence in everything, and hardly venture to entertain certain expectations of the attraction of gravity. Our habits of thought have been shaped and fashioned by our immediate surroundings, and when we try to imagine

something beyond, we are like cucumbers grown in a bottle, which cannot reconcile themselves to the rude air and plebeian bugs of the outer world. Of course there will and must be a thousand inconveniences and annoyances attending any change in life; but it is fair, at least, to consider the advantages which may ensue, and allow them their due effect upon our minds.

The first and most apparent gain is, of course, in the improvement of the buildings. Our present halls were very fair habitations among men forty or fifty years ago; but the world has been advancing and we have not. We are woefully deficient in comforts and conveniences, and that, too, in matters which no care and consideration can avoid. "Our ancestors," says Thackeray, "of whatever condition they may have been, certainly belonged to the ranks of the Great Unwashed." In those primitive days, men had not attained the conception of water on every story, good provision for ventilation and proper heating apparatus. A man expected to be frozen when he rose in the morning, just as he expected to rise at five and eat breakfast by candle-light, because it was a custom which had been handed down from the Pilgrim Fathers, and because he was too true a New Englander to allow himself to be comfortable.

Mais nous avons changé tout cela. We live and must live as does the world about us. We have changed our hours, our manners, and our thoughts, but we cannot do so without continual friction against remains of barbarism. We have not even the comforts and conveniences traditionally ascribed to the gentle savage of 1820. The cheery, hospitable Franklin stove has passed away, and a black, iron coal-eater (call it not heater) has taken its place, because our chimneys have no provisions for coal-grates; while habit compels the cold-kneed mortal, who then would have slipped on his kindly clothes at once, to court the icy hydrant and swing the festive pail.

But imagine the happy change that is coming, when we shall dress under the balmy influence of sea-coal (if we can afford it), shall collect around the well-spread board in our noble dining-hall, unconscious of an early slip upon the ice, and shall recite in large, well-lighted, well-aired halls, where arm-chairs shall support our weary backs, and the Professor, no longer compelled to divide his attention between the class and the stove, shall beam benignantly over his spectacles.

Yet all these are but minor advantages. We may fairly hope for a better life and activity within the College. A thousand daily occurrences will draw us into our strong current of college life. We may expect more union and more sympathy; whatever we may lose by a separation of four blocks from our friends in town we shall gain by the development of our own resources. Athletic sports will flourish; the most beautiful region of the Connecticut valley will invite us to excursions, and the river and the boat-house will be no farther off than they are now. It certainly will be no slight advantage to escape from the conventional Hartford boarding-house to a common hall of our own, fair and stately and hospitable, where we shall meet at hours adapted to our tastes and habits, and no longer be "admitted as a member" of a sour-tempered, pie-devouring family, who naturally consider their own convenience and enjoyment before ours.

Again, we must consider the advantages of such a position upon our intellectual life. It will not be the new philosophical apparatus, nor the extension of the library alone or chiefly, much as they are needed, which will affect us, but the simple fact of being thrown to a wholesome extent upon our own resources. The reading-room will be a reading-room in those days, and we shall have some different apartment, cheerful and attractive, for social intercourse. The Library, which we may well hope will be opened every day, will become a quiet resort for the more studious.

ous spirits. In time we shall probably gather around our fair buildings a number of resident graduates, men who love letters and science, and gladly linger in their Alma Mater's halls, kindly friends and associates of their younger companions, adding a new and most desirable element to our little body corporate, and connecting us by their lives and sympathies with the learned world without.

But the TABLET! No longer shall the editors write weary word-work or dun dreary debtors. No longer shall they strive to wake the men around them to a sense of the dignity and profit and necessity of a college paper, for all will feel it, all will labor for its advancement. Its weekly issue-day will be an event in literary circles, and Coptic translations shall float on the sacred waters of the Nile stream.

MINOR MATTERS.

BOAT CLUB.

At a meeting of the boat club, held in the Latin recitation room, Mar. 16th, McKennan, Hooker and Scudder '75 were appointed to see about procuring a shell for the University crew. The Treasurer reported all debts paid and two dollars in the Treasury. (Applause.) The monthly dues were reduced to twenty-five cents. McKennan was elected Vice President. The Sophomore crew think strongly of challenging Wesleyan '79 to row them a race sometime during the present term. In case such a contest can be brought about, Hooker, Sherman, Kurtz, Prout, Lewis and Hurd will represent Trinity. This is a very fair crew and as our Middletown friends always have good boating men an exciting struggle may be expected.

TRUSTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the board of trustees was held yesterday. It is hoped that some definite and permanent action was taken in regard to the plans for the new buildings. We will endeavor to give the result of their deliberations in our next issue.

The changes thus far made by the trustees in the plans have been quite material, reducing the number of quadrangles to three, and providing for the instant building of only one. This, however, will be of double size, having a front of six hundred feet and a depth of three hundred. It will include chapel, President's house, dining hall, and accommodations for one hundred and ten students, sufficient space being allowed for another dormitory which will furnish accommodations for a second hundred. The foundations of the tower, library and probably museum will also be laid. It is quite probable, and in many cases certain, that individuals will take in hand the erecting of different portions of the buildings, as soon as the remaining parts take shape, while with the growth of the college which the erection of the new buildings will bring, increased accommodations will be needed and other quadrangles must speedily follow. We regard this new arrangement as a decided improvement upon the old. Not only are the new plans more definite and substantial than the former, but the arrangement is really superior as regards climate and other details which should be taken into account in following English models.

The ground has been frozen this winter to an unusual depth, which will somewhat delay the building, but the contracts are as good as made, and the work will begin at the earliest possible moment.

THE CHAPEL SERVICES.

The arrangements for the Lenten services this season have been generally the same as in previous years. The Thursday evening half-hour services have consisted of selected readings with a few collects, and the daily evening services during Holy Week have been at 9 o'clock, the form being set forth by the Bishop of the Diocese. At noon every day the Litany has been said. The Sunday discourses have been on the nature, effects and origin of Sin, several of the city clergy contributing to the course.

BASE BALL.

The Base Ball Club held a meeting in No. 5. B. H. on the 27th ult. It was voted that the nine immediately commence to practice in the Gymnasium. A new uniform will probably be procured to take the place of the present rather countrified-looking one. The University nine at the present meeting is as follows:

Lincoln, '76. P. McKennan, C. Hewitt, 1. B. Blair, 2. B. Brigham, S. S. Rogers, L. F. Buffington, C. F., and Stark, R. F. Craik will play 3d Base after the 1st of May.

EASTER.

There were two services in the Chapel on Easter Sunday, one at 8.15 A. M., and the other at 5.15 P. M. Dr. Pynchon delivered an address at the morning service. The Chapel was trimmed about as usual. A large cross of flowers stood in the window in the rear of the Communion Table and on either side was a vase of exquisite calla lilies. On the front of the cloth on the Communion Table was a small vase of red and white flowers. The singing was only moderately good.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

The following works have been received by the Library since our last issue:

Missouri State University; Report of Curators, 1874; 1 vol.
Fogg, Rev. Thos. B.; Memorial Sermons at Brooklyn, Conn., 1871; 1 vol.
Political Reform; New York City Council of; Report, '72-3-4; 1 vol.
March, Francis A.; Address before American Philological Association, 1874; 1 vol.
Kelley, Hon. Wm. D.; Address on Proposed Reciprocity Treaty, 1874; 1 vol.
American Philological Association; Proceedings, 1874; 1 vol.
Paddock, Benj. H., M. A.; Noble Ambition of a Christian College, 1 vol.
Whipple, Bishop H. B.; Increase of the Ministry. [Sermon.] 1 vol.
Douglas, Wm. K.; Christian Priest Taken from Among Men. [Sermon.] 1 vol.

Ute Country; Report of a Reconnaissance, 1873. [Ruffner.] 1 vol.
Surgeon-General U. S. A.; Annual Report, 1874; 1 vol.
Librarian of Congress; Annual Report, 1874; 1 vol.
Sines and Cosines; Logarithms of. [Naut. Alm., 1877.] 1 vol.
Irrigation of San Joaquin, &c., Valleys; Report of Commissioners, 1874; 1 vol.
Bureau of Education; Circulars and Information, No. 3, 1874; 1 vol.
Williams, Bishop John; The Seventeenth Article; 1 vol.
Edson, Theodore, D. D.; Historical Discourse, Lowell Mass., 1874; 1 vol.
Iron Pile Shafts; Effects of Sea Water and Exposure; Report, 1874; 1 vol.
White, C. A., M. D.; Report upon Invertebrate Fossils; 1 vol.
Aachen; Programm der Polytechnische Schule, 1874-5; 1 vol.
Do.; Special der Polytechnische Schule, 1874-5; 1 vol.
Albert, J. J.; Report on Canal to connect Chesapeake and Ohio Canal with Baltimore, 1838; 1 vol.
General Theological Seminary, P. E. C.; Statutes, 1874; 1 vol.
Egleston, Thomas; Catalogue of Minerals; 1 vol.
Wilmer, Bishop of Louisiana; Annual Address, 1873; 1 vol.
Bakewell, Rev. Jno.; Christian's Duty in Regard to Spiritualism; 1 vol.
Hayden, F. V.; Geological Survey of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah; Report, 1872; 1 vol.
Humphreys, A. A.; Exploration and Survey West of 100th Meridian; Report, 1872; 1 vol.
General Convention of P. E. C.; Debates in H. of D., 1871; 1 vol.
Columbia College; Catalogue of Library, 1874; 1 vol.
American Pharmaceutical Association; Proceedings, 1874; 1 vol.
Cudmore, P.; The Irish Republic; 1 vol.
Sands, B. F.; Washington Astron. and Meteor. Observs., 1872; 1 vol.
Congressional Record, Vols. I and II. [Six Parts and Index.] 8 vols.
Raymond, R. W.; Mineral Resources West of Rocky Mountains, 1873; 1 vol.
Selfridge, Thos. O.; Report of Explorations for a Ship Canal, Isthmus of Darien, 1874; 1 vol.
Timber; Cultivation of; Report to House of Reps., 43d Congress; 1 vol.
Immigrants; Space Allotted to; Report to U. S. Senate, 1873; 1 vol.
Hitchcock, C. H.; Geology of New Hampshire; Part I; 1 vol.
Centennial of United States; Education at; Remarks; vol. 1.
Trumbull, John; McFingal; 1 vol.

The Trinity Tablet.

Published every three weeks during term-time by
the Students of

TRINITY COLLEGE.

Managing Editor, . ISAAC HIESTER, '76

EDITORS, CLASS OF '76.

EDWARD N. BURKE, JOHN D. McKENNAN,
ISAAC HIESTER, PERCIVAL PADGETT.

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COLLEGE AND CAMPUS.

Very few changes have taken place about the College since our last issue, and it is with great difficulty, that we take it upon ourselves to write about nothing; if there had only been a breach of discipline of some sort or

other, then we could enlarge upon it, and endeavor to create a sensation; but no, everything goes on in its accustomed regularity, and very few things are left for us to criticise, as is customary in College and Campus. The *Ivy* Committee have held a meeting, and now promise us that it shall be issued within two weeks after the Easter vacation, which is much earlier than usual; they expect to astonish the students, but in what way it will be, we are unable to say. They earnestly desire that all clubs, who wish for a place in their annual number, will please furnish a cut, the more the better, with each list of the members. This should be done at once as any delay will probably forfeit their place among the "honored few"; there is abundant originality in the College, and in what better way could it be used than in getting up some design that will furnish amusement to all?

We have been favored with a glimpse of '78's class notices, and if we are any judge, they are as much superior to '77's as the sun is to the moon in brilliancy; they are printed in three colors and exhibit very good taste on the part of the committee; the class is now at work trying to select a cut; if they are as successful in this respect the result will be something wonderful to behold. The Sophomore crew are training vigorously and it is rumored that they intend to challenge the Sophs. of some other College, which one it will be we are not able to say, but probably Vassar. Go ahead Sophs we wish you every success in your undertaking and trust that you will not be disappointed at the result.

We would urge the students to first patronize those who advertise in our columns, before they go elsewhere; for it is quite evident that unless we patronize them they surely won't do the same to us. A little carefulness on the part of the students would take a load of trouble from our shoulders; we hope that this will be sufficient mention of the matter. Before we close we would remind

the students that, unless their subscriptions to the TABLET are paid at once, this will be the last number sent to them.

THE SPELLING-MATCH.

In the *Hartford Courant* of the 12th ult., there appeared the following item: "Well-wishers of both institutions have expressed the desire that a spelling-match may soon be arranged between the young ladies of the Hartford High School and the students of Trinity College." Before this notice appeared we had heard no mention of such a contest either by any one connected with the college or an out-sider, so we are lead to believe that it was an invention of the *Courant's* sanctum, and that the editors of said paper are the well-wishers in the case. Be that as it may, the suggestion was a good one and we are only surprised that it did not meet with that favor and enthusiasm necessary to set it on foot. And we do but express the hope that arrangements may yet be made by which we may be enabled to meet the young ladies in the arena of orthography. At first, as one might naturally suppose, the notice was a subject of much comment amongst the students, some boldly affirming that we could soon "spell them down," while others were equally vehement in advocating the cause of the young ladies. Now, as far as our views are concerned, we, the editorial *we*, judging from our own experience, are inclined to adopt the opinion of the latter, for we have a painful remembrance of those earlier days of our youth, when we were obliged to yield the first places in our spelling class to the girls and, in spite of our most strenuous efforts in the way of study and "peeping in the book" etc., were never able to get ahead of them. And, accordingly, we must confess that we would enter the gladiatorial field of orthography very reluctantly, when we are to meet such opponents as the young ladies of the famous Hartford High School. Yet for the sake of having a good time and giving the young

ladies the satisfaction of defeating us, even we might be induced to enter.

The spelling-match is an old-fashioned amusement but recently revived. One can scarcely open a newspaper from certain sections of the country without finding announcements and accounts of spelling-matches together with suggestions in regard to them. The localities in which the amusement has been held are distributed from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, but it is most popular in the rural and suburban districts of New England and the West. The old as well as the young take part in these exercises, and both enjoy them and reap instructions from them. No one can deny that these exercises afford pleasant amusement in view of their being always imbued with the social element, and that they are also decidedly useful is self-evident, for, as far as we can ascertain, it rarely happens that more than one out of ten is left standing after a half-dozen words of common use have been dictated to them. These exercises are useful to the old as well as the young, for, it is lamentably the fact, that there are many lawyers, clergyman, and others, holding high positions in the world, who commit the grossest sins against syntax and orthography, and yet are considered men of *considerable* literary ability. If editors and publishers were to give to the world the writings and communications of these self-same persons exactly as written, it would bring a blush of shame to the cheek of every patron of literature to think that their early education should have been so sadly neglected. No one knows, except the author and publisher, how much writers are indebted to the blotting and revising hands in publishing offices for the clearness and correctness of literary contributions. So we are glad to see that these exercises are getting popular all over the United States and it leads us to expect that there may yet spring up a generation who will have "the Unabridged" at their tongues' end.

Communicated.

MESSRS. EDITORS: If I do not trespass too much on your generosity, I would like to reply to an article entitled "Special and General" in your last number. [We believe in free discussion and are always glad to give a reasonable portion of space to the differing views of our readers. So do not regard it as an act of generosity on our part.—*Ed. Tablet.*] The purpose of the article was strenuously to advise all students not to make a specialty of certain studies in the college curriculum; but to give equal attention to all. The mind, it said, might in this way be given that breadth which alone can make it eminently successful in its future exertions. Without desiring to deny the truth of this, it may be well to consider the difficulty of thus moulding the mind in any way whatsoever. The body, indeed may usually be developed to almost any extent. The soul, too, may become either holy or utterly corrupt—moulded by circumstance. But the mind, this is not so pliable. Mental dispositions can only be influenced by a long laborious process. Mental peculiarities can hardly be shaken off. A person's eccentricities are always as strictly a part of him as his natural features. Let a man live to be fourscore, and we shall yet recognize him by some oddity we noticed years ago; now this oddity is a *mental disposition*. This proves that it is extremely difficult for any one to mould his mind as he would clay, for it is unreasonable to suppose that no efforts have been made to get rid of these peculiarities. The same must be true of the intellect. By no exertions can a talent for any subject be developed unless it be fully awake. Granting that every intellect is formed after the same general plan, yet if certain faculties be asleep, it will cost more exertion to arouse them than it is right to expend. It is useless *labor* to exhaust the golden time in decorating that which lies dormant. It is like dressing a corpse for a bridal day. But when one

craving of the intellect demands supplies, should we not turn every energy upon it, not only in after life, but now; and not dream about what we *might* do in other ways? For it is the men of a single idea, of one purpose, of one pursuit that have done the world's work in all ages; and the man whose object it is to "batter down error" should not take for his model such a one as the all-accomplished and ever-disappointed Raleigh. S.

BOOK NOTICES.

GOETHE'S HERMANN AND DOROTHEA. Edited by James Morgan Hart. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1875. 155 pp. Price, \$1.00. For sale by Brown & Gross.

The present is the initial volume of the series of German classics for American students. The editor proposes to make the series progressive, ascending from the easy to the difficult, and in accordance with this design, to annotate each volume in a manner peculiar to itself, so that while in the present volume the notes relate chiefly to the meanings of words and phrases, in succeeding ones they will aim at explaining the drift of the argument and gradually assume more of a critical and literary character. There can be no doubt of the author's ability and familiar acquaintance with the German language, though often it seems to us that he has barely avoided allowing his great learning to interfere with the usefulness of his annotations to the average student. However, the notes are quite full, all grammatical references being omitted. A partial glossary and a few general remarks on grammar follow the main body of the notes. The arguments are very good, and the introduction, which is particularly fine, will well repay a careful perusal. The book must meet with much success, and speaks well for the series; we regret that the omission of Hermann and Dorothea from our German course will prevent us from enjoying the fruits of Mr. Hart's labors. The book is beautifully

gotten up, and we look with interest for the succeeding volumes.

SILVER THREADS OF SONG. For school and home. By H. Millard. New York: S. T. Gordon & Son, 1875. 208 pp. Price, 60 cents.

This new singing book contains a popular selection of songs, duetts, trios, etc., receiving its name from the song, "Silver Threads among the Gold," which finds a place in it. A very complete course of elementary instruction in music is prefixed to the book, and there is added a pretty little operetta for juveniles,—“Little Red Riding-hood,”—and a musical charade, which we should enjoy seeing played. The book is nicely printed, and will certainly meet with a ready sale.

Any one having Catalogues of the College for the following years, '37-'38, '39-'40, and '46-'47, and wishing to dispose of them, will confer a favor by communicating with the Editors.

PERSONAL.

BAYLEY. '35.—Archbishop Bayley has been appointed by the Pope to confer the cardinal's hat on Archbishop McCloskey.

RUDDER, '48.—Rev. Dr. Rudder has published a letter on the ecclesiastical troubles in Illinois.

VAN ZANDT, '51.—Lieut. Gov. Van Zandt presided at the spelling-match between Brown University and the State Normal School in Providence.

WITHERSPOON, '55.—Rev. O. Witherspoon has edited a Sunday-School Hymnal lately published.

POND, '58.—Chas. M. Pond is the Democratic Candidate for State Senator in this District.

BAKEWELL, '59.—Rev. John Bakewell has published a sermon on Spiritualism delivered in Grace Church, Topeka, Kansas.

WARREN, '59.—Samuel B. Warren will

deliver the oration before the Alumni at the next commencement.

STORRS, '63.—Rev. L. K. Storrs has resigned the rectorship of St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield, Mass.

WOOTTEN, '64.—Rev. Edwin Wootten is Rector of Grace Church, Jefferson City, Mo.

TREMAINE, '66.—Rev. C. H. B. Tremaine took leave of St. Thomas' Parish on Easter Sunday.

GRISWOLD, '66.—B. H. Griswold has been appointed Auditor and General Freight and Ticket Agent of the Western Maryland R. R. Co. His office is Eutaw and Fayette Sts., Baltimore, Md.

TOTTEN, '69.—Lieut. C. A. L. Totten, a graduate of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in '73, was in town a few days ago. He has been appointed Instructor of Military Science in Massachusetts Agricultural College.

FISKE, '70.—Rev. Geo. M. Fiske has a son.

WEBB, of Racine '77 has entered '78.

PROFESSOR JIM, has been around college several times within the last week. He says he is pretty feeble and is troubled with dizziness but hopes to be at his regular duties before very long.

PARTICLES.

The *Ivy* will be published about May 1st.—Bishop Williams preached in Chapel, March 14th.—It will not be well for Prof. Edwards and several others of his African brethren, if they do not stop their howling around the sections at midnight.—Sherman '77 and Kurtz '77 are training for positions on the University Crew.—A smitten Freshman sent a Valentine to his heart's idol; after the usual array of bleeding hearts, kissing doves etc., he wrote the following lines:

When you unto a woman grow,
Pray don't forget your little beau.

Rev. Prof. Huntington will continue to act as Rector of Christ Church for another year.

—The Easter recess begins April 17th.—Rev. Dr. Meier-Smith of St. John's Church preached in Chapel, March 21st.—Kellogg takes Seventy-five's photographs. Special rates for other classes. Please call as soon as possible.—The next TABLET will be issued May 1st.—March 26th was egg-nog day—W. W. Gillette takes the place of H. O. Du Bois in the Prize Version Declamation.—Old-clothes-men are getting aristocratic, since they refuse to buy clothes that are not in fashion.—(Polite Senior reading paper to newly arrived Freshman.) “Ah Mr.—. Glad to see you, do you like music?” Freshman. “Yes, I am very fond of it.” Senior. “How fortunate, I see that Ristori is to be here soon.” Fresh. “But is Ristori not in Tragedy?” Senior. “Well you know Operas are mostly tragic.”—A Freshman owns 48 shirts and 80 collars; what must the rest of his wardrobe be if it is in the same proportion.—“Well Billy, bet you can't tell me why the North Pole is warmer than the South?” Billy. “Yes I can, the North Pole is up while the South is down, and every fool knows that warm air rises.”—Fresh (just through reciting) “Say Chummy, I was awfully chawed wasn't I.” Chum. “Why so.” Fresh. “Because I got eight.”—If thy ear offend thee, Hewitt off.—No alarm taps on the Chapel bell.

NOTES AND CLIPPINGS.

One question has troubled the present board ever since the TABLET passed into their hands, and that is, shall the local or the literary element predominate? When we congratulate ourselves on our well-filled columns of news, our exchanges lavish their pity upon us that we are “degenerating into a newspaper,” or “wasting our breath on matters of interest to nobody.” When we answer these compassionate appeals with general articles, the cry comes that no one cares for any productions we can furnish on subjects which are

treated much more ably elsewhere. We hesitate between the two courses and end in “splitting the difference.” When a literary magazine can be supported here as well as the TABLET, the demands of both parties can be better satisfied. Until that time we must be satisfied with “giving the news of the college world in general,” and leaving essays to fill up the odd spaces, satisfied that by adopting this plan the purposes of the paper will be better fulfilled and its subscribers more generally pleased, even though outsiders may fail to be as much interested.

The TABLET shall contain matters of interest to the students and alumni. When college news fails to interest this class of readers they may as well cease reading it, and turn to the regular monthlies and reviews for the solid articles they require. Not that by this plan we expect to become a mere newspaper. Plenty of articles can be written which would be much more interesting to college men than the outside world, and there are many subjects connected with college life and college studies which college men can handle more satisfactorily than writers for the general public. With articles of this character the TABLET can be made very interesting, and to such we propose to give the preference over others which would serve better for themes or orations.

While we are on this subject we may touch upon another point, which we have repeatedly referred to before. We are much impressed by some remarks of the *Bowdoin Orient* on the brevity of articles. In reply to a correspondent of the *Argus*, asking “What can a man do with 1100 words?” the *Orient* answers: “We should advise him to read Bacon's essays and find out. The famous essay, ‘Of Studies,’ has 650 words in it; and there is enough thought in it to save several long magazine articles from oblivion. Many of Lamb's essays, and any of his ‘Popular Fallacies,’ would come inside the number required. Many papers in the *Spectator* could

have competed. Yet none of these were introductions 'to what the author *would* write if time and space allowed.' We like short articles. 'It is the life and soul of a magazine never to be long dull upon one subject; and the reader, like the sailor's horse, has at least the comfortable refreshment of having the spur often changed.' Much about nothing, or nothing in much, characterizes many of the articles that appear in the College Papers."

The *Wesleyan Argus* suggests to us not unfrequently new thoughts, and has also a brave way of handling unwelcome subjects, which we would like to see more frequently agitated in the college press and less persistently avoided in the college pulpit. Under the caption, "What Do You Think of It?" the *Argus* laments the low state of college honesty in such a straightforward manner that we cannot forbear quoting: "According to what principle of honor and right can a student excuse himself for 'skidding' in recitation, for taking a book in examination, or copying from the paper of his neighbor? By what code of morals do men justify the use of 'horses' in preparing their lessons, when they know that professors consider the use of them dishonorable? How can any—especially seekers for college honors, who have been and are constantly using unfair means to get marks—look a fellow-student in the face, and feel that they are not guilty of doing him an injustice? What sort of a conscience has a man who will boast to a rival for class honors how completely he succeeded in deceiving the professor; what a 'rush' he made in 'making up,' when he 'cut' for that very purpose, and sent in an excuse for sickness, though enjoying his usual health?"

There are many causes for this sad and almost universal dishonesty, but it may all be charged to want of principle. Honesty is not the best policy in college life, and the man who works fairly must in most cases expect to fall. But custom can never make wrong equal to right, nor can any qualifying

circumstances be allowed. "A man who is not willing to sacrifice present popularity and future prospects to the cause of truth should, under no circumstances, be permitted to worship at her shrine or be considered one of her votaries. He who is virtuous merely because he has no temptation to do wrong, is deserving of no praise; and he who will not fight the foes of honor, deserves not the crown of victory which she bestows."

Referring to a late communication in the TABLET on College Dances, the *Argus* says: "May the day be far distant when Wesleyan's students invite the ladies of Middletown to a College dance."

The *Athenæum*, still referring to our January number, advises us to confine ourselves to original poetry. Well, we might put stale jokes into doggerel verse, and we might show originality by publishing a translation made in 1820 of a Latin hymn written in 1142. Yes, it's a very good thing to be original.

Sigma Epsilon is a new publication from the University of the South. If we are not mistaken something more than the editorial work has been done at home. "Localisms" is rather a poor name for the column of home news. The first number is a good attempt, and we place it cheerfully on our exchange list.

The Amherst nine are exercising daily in the gymnasium.

Brown's Spelling-match with the Normal School brought money into the Boat-Club.

Williams has had a Senior Exhibition.

Rutgers is keeping up its interest in boating, in spite of their Rowing Association.

Harvard has ceased to ridicule Union's claim for her color (magenta) and is beginning to discuss the question.

A New Haven minister has been preaching on the recent rush among the Yale students, using the text: "And the whole herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea and perished in the waters."—*Ex.*

A hearty Junior, who can't get enough to eat at Commons, wishes to substitute for one of the Latin inscriptions in Memorial Hall these words of Leonidas at the Battle of Thermopylæ: *Prandete forti animo hodie fortasse apud inferos cœnabimus.*—*Advocate.*

A Southern paper says: "A family in Florida lost their little boy, and advertised for him in a daily paper. That afternoon, an alligator crawled up out of the swamp and died on the front door step. In his stomach were found a handful of red hair, some bone buttons, a pair of boot heels, a glass alley, a pair of check pants, and a paper collar. The advertisement did it."—*University Herald.*

Song of the Juniors:

"I want to be a senior,
And with the seniors stand—
A match within my pocket,
An Havana in my hand."

Index.

At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which took place in Hartford last August, Dr. Brocklesby read a paper on the relation between sun-spots and rain-fall, a question which has attracted much attention among men of Science for several years. By a careful comparison of tables extending from 1804 to the present day, he proved that so far as trustworthy observations have been made throughout the limited States, they point to a connection existing between the variations in the sun-spot area and those of the annual rain-fall.

Since the publication of the essay in the Proceedings of the Association, the Doctor has received many interesting letters from different parts of the world, including a complimentary communication from the French Academy of Science, and valuable observations of Canadian scientists upon the connection which has been observed between the sun-spot cycle and the alteration in the level of the great lakes. "*Nature*," the popular scientific weekly of England, mentions the

article as one of the most important contributions to meteorology made by the Association.

The Sophomore Debating Society have elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

President, EDW. M. SCUDDER.
1st Vice President, JOHN HUSKE.
2d Vice President, JOHN PROUT.
Secretary, ROBERT H. COLEMAN.

AMUSEMENT CALENDAR.

This afternoon. Janaushek "Mary Stuart" and "Come Here.

6th, 7th, 8th. Carpenter the mesmerist.

9th. Ristori.

12th. Washburn's Sensation.

16th. Opera by Amateurs, "Doctor of Alcantara."

19th. Mrs. Rousby.

22d. Tony Pastor.

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